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VOL. IV. NEW YORK, MARCH, 1886. NO. 2.

A Handbook of Therapeutics. By SYDNEY RINGER, M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine, College Physician to University College Hospital, etc. Eleventh edition. London: H. K. Lewis. 1886.

THE fact of the appearance of an eleventh edition, is a proof of the popularity of this well-known handbook, the general plan of which is familiar. Recent additions to the stock of medicinal agents render alterations indispensable, but, beyond this, the edition before us does not differ materially from those which have preceded it. The value of the preliminary chapters on the tongue, the pulse, etc., remains as great as ever, and will be perused with interest and instruction by successive generations of students. Dr. Ringer is particularly well known for his elaborate researches on the physiological action of drugs, and although the data so obtained are not always proof against criticism, or directly useful in directing their application in disease, yet, as it is a truly scientific method of inquiry, and offers, moreover, excellent mental training at a period of study when such training is of the greatest importance, it cannot be considered inappropriate or unnecessary. Most of the drugs which have of late years acquired a semblance of reputation for themselves are described, although the space allotted to each of them is not always in proportion to their importance. This is particularly the case with cascara sagrada, antipyrine, and one or two others whose *locus standi* is by this time established. There are also one or two omissions, the reasons for which it is difficult to understand, as for instance the abrus precatorious or jequirity bean, a now recognized agent in the treatment of pannus, or granular lids, homatropine, the useful substitute for ordinary atropine when dilation of the pupil is required for ophthalmoscopic examination purposes only, and strophanthin the drug so well reported on by Dr. Fraser, of Edinburgh.

On the other hand, the chapter on anæsthetics is much enlarged and improved. Dr. Buxton, the anæsthetist at the University College Hospital, has contributed the articles on nitrous oxide gas, cocaine, and ether, on the latter of which his great experience as administrator of anæsthetics enables him to speak with authority. These subjects are judiciously handled, and are well worthy of the close attention of those who have to do with anæsthetics. Dr. Buxton does not believe in the good effect said to be derived from the use of nitrite of amyl, in cases of syncope under chloroform, and this may possibly account for the fact that in the chapter on this drug no mention is made of its extensive and often successful use in such cases.

In the few paragraphs devoted to nitrite of sodium, no credit is given to Dr. William Murrell for his extensive observations as to its physiological and therapeutic action, the publication of which excited much interest at the time.

The practitioner may derive some useful hints from the chapter on the employment of alcohol in disease, and some check given, possibly, to its use as a matter of routine, a practice which is often attended by such undesirable results. The book concludes with a liberal supply of directions for preparing food for the sick, and a copious analytical index prepared by Dr. Theodore Maxwell, both of which will be found invaluable for reference.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

It is announced that the third volume of the Medical History of the War of the Rebellion is nearly completed, and will soon be issued the press.

The Surgical Diseases of Children. By EDMUND OWEN, M.B., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to St. Mary's Hospital, and to the Hospital for Children, Great Ormond Street. London: Cassell and Co. 1885.

UNLIKE some of the manuals for students and practitioners, of which series this is one, this useful book treats of a rather extensive subject, and in a comparatively small compass. The diagrams are useful, and the colored plates, though not numerous, are good; they include strumous dactylitis and ulcerative stomatitis, a figure showing extreme rickets, condylomata and hiatus of the bladder on the third plate, and myeloid sarcoma and molluscum contagiosum on the fourth.

Every surgeon has his preference for particular methods of treatment, and some readers will, of course, miss the form they think most suitable in certain cases; but we must acknowledge the soundness of the author's principles, and principles are, after all, the best guides to treatment. One of the commonest deformities which surgeons may have to treat is nævus. The author condemns the use of nitric acid, unless very carefully used; and for capillary nævi he advocates the use of sodium-ethylate, "a sodium-alcohol which robs the skin of the elements of water, and the caustic soda which is left against the tissue quickly destroys it." For the larger nævi, Mr. Owen prefers destruction by the thermo or galvanic-cautery. We are not surprised to find that he has abandoned subcutaneous ligature and the injection of perchloride of iron, but we hardly think that he does justice to excision for large and deep nævi.

In his chapter on operations for Phimosis and Paraphimosis, the author advocates the use of an India-rubber ring round the root of the penis, to enable the operator to circumcise by the bloodless method, and condemns the simple slitting up of the prepuce. He adheres to the old, and, as we think, rather clumsy method of treating paraphimosis, by squeezing the glans between the thumb and finger. Would not the graduated pressure which can be obtained by tape or its equivalents be more effectual, quicker, and less painful or injurious?

There is an interesting chapter on the Rectum, and the author has performed Littré's operation of opening the bowel in the groin in as many as six cases, but his results are not encouraging. He puts, we think, hardly with sufficient force the possibility of success in operating carefully from the perinæum, nor does he, on the other hand, refer to the difficulties in after-treatment, if success be achieved.

There is an useful chapter on Intestinal Obstruction; and we find, with reference to spontaneous recovery, the very pertinent observation that "the report of one instance would attract much attention, whilst very possibly fifty children might have died of unrelieved strangulation without special record being made. Thus Nature becomes accredited with a power of working a cure in internal strangulation, which, if misapprehended, is likely to involve grave disappointment." In the treatment of acute strangulation, Mr. Owen does not express much faith in copious enemata or insufflation, and only just mentions massage before going into the subject of abdominal section very thoroughly. Careful massage deserves more attention in these cases, and is, we think, destined to play a more important part in treatment of this and other diseases than surgeons have hitherto allowed. Surgeons have not studied the subject carefully, and unfortunately the treatment by this means has fallen too often into the hands of unscientific and unscrupulous persons.

The author gives a good deal of space to the consideration of Hip-joint Disease. He is of opinion that it most often arises through a strain of the ligamentum teres, and he enters very thoroughly into the questions of the mechanics of the disease, the peculiarity of the pain, the attitude, the walk, differential diagnosis and deformity, the treatment by weight and pulley, Thomas's splint, complications and prognosis. This is all so thoroughly and clearly discussed by the author, that it forms a most useful chapter, and it is illustrated by a few characteristic and original woodcuts. —*Brit. Med. Jour.*

Lectures on the Diagnosis of Diseases of the Brain. By W. R. GOWERS, M.D., F.R.C.P., Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine in University College Hospital, and to the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic. London: J. & A. Churchill: 1885.

IT MAY not be easy, as one of the reviewers of a recent work sententiously remarked, to write a first-rate book on nervous diseases, but for the author of the work now before us it is impossible to produce any thing except of the highest excellence. In addition to the perfect acquaintance

which Dr. Gowers possesses with all the recent work which has been done on the nervous system, he brings to the consideration of nervous diseases a calm and judicial mind, so that he is enabled to weigh the facts and theories which have been or are being advanced, and assign to each its true clinical value. As an example of this, we may cite his remarks on the experimental researches on the functions of the brain by Hitzig, Munk, and Ferrier. "Here also, however, we meet with contradictions; and here also more has been ascertained than we can at present apply. Our guide in this department must be the facts of clinical and pathological observation. We must beware of applying wholesale to the human brain the conclusions derived from animals. The latter are of value to us only as indications for observation on man, and by enabling us to give a fuller interpretation to the facts we learn by our study of disease during life and after death."

The lectures deal in succession with the medical anatomy of the brain; the symptoms of brain disease, classed under the motor, the sensory, and the mental functions; affections of speech; headache, and other sensations; temperature, pulse, and general indications; ophthalmoscopic changes; the diagnosis of the seat of the disease, and the diagnosis of the nature of the lesion.

The author does not put forward any claim to original research or observation in this work, but it is none the less true that it is characterized not only by the impress of the author's own individuality, but also by many a new fact and fresh view. Dealing, for example, with the pathway of taste sensation, he states his belief that it will be found that taste-impressions solely reach the brain by the roots of the fifth nerve, and "that the doctrine that the roots of the glosso-pharyngeal nerve have any thing to do with taste is a curious physiological myth, due to too wide an induction from certain anatomical facts, and from dubious experiments on animals." His belief is based on the facts obtained from three cases of isolated paralysis of the fifth cranial nerve, in all of which there was complete unilateral loss of taste throughout the whole length of the tongue.

The explanation also of certain irregularities of hemiopia as being caused by variations in the decussation at the chiasma seems to us to be new, while the theory of abductor paralysis in lesions of the recurrent laryngeal nerve is entirely original.

In treating of the affections of speech the author is perhaps at his best. This complicated subject is put in such a clear light as to be easily grasped by the reader, the symptoms being grouped under the heads of sensory and motor word-processes. Dr. Gowers, we may note, is evidently of opinion that our knowledge is as yet too fragmentary to allow of dogmatic theorizing, or to warrant rigid systematizing. At first sight we were somewhat struck by the absence of any reference to some recent Continental work on aphasia believed to be caused by lesions of the island of Reil (the aphasia of conduction of Wernicke). Close study of this part of the work, however, has shown us that Dr. Gowers is of opinion that our first task is to realize the limits of our knowledge of aphasia, and that on such a subject as this, where the facts are so contradictory, we can at present only suspend our decision. The perusal of this portion of the work we must confess frankly to have given us much clearer views of aphasia than we had before.

The fifteenth lecture deals with thrombosis of the cortical veins of the brain, and contains a vivid sketch of this condition as it occurs in children especially. "These cases," he concludes, "are not at all infrequent. They constitute the majority of cases of sudden cerebral disease in childhood. The hemiplegia may be transient, when the lesion is near, but not in, the motor part of the cortex; and probably, in early infancy, the initial hemiplegia, if slight in degree, may altogether escape observation. Most cases of epilepsy dating from infancy, in which the fits are one-sided, are of this character. We can very often trace slight indications of hemiplegia, in trifling weakness, slight shortening of the limbs, or in a slight degree of the mobile spasm that is so marked in the more severe cases."

When pointing out the mistake of assuming that when a diseased condition of the brain is due to syphilis it can be cured, the author reminds us, and the warning is useful to us all, that such kinds of damage as necrotic softening caused by diseased vessels can not be cured. He enunciates a law that speaking generally "the more quickly the changes are produced (and the symptoms developed), the less are they influenced by treatment; and in sudden lesions, as a rule, no influence is possible. Neglect of this

consideration," he adds, "often brings discredit upon medical men. I have seen many cases of sudden hemiplegia, due to syphilitic disease of vessels, in which the patients were assured that if they were properly treated they would certainly get well; and when, after several years, there was almost no improvement, they were naturally inclined to think lightly, and sometimes to speak strongly, of the medical man who had given a prognosis so erroneous."

A pleasant little touch of satire is leveled at certain tendencies of medical practice, such as the use of soft and soothing euphemisms. "It has of late become fashionable," he remarks, "to call the partial loss (of power) 'paresis,' a term of doubtful value except as a means of giving a questionable satisfaction to patients who find comfort in the mysterious word, and think well of its donor—at any rate until the next physician whom they consult assures them that the disease *is* 'paralysis,' and that 'paresis' is only Greek for weakness."—*Edinburg Jour. of Med.*

Basic Aural Dyscrasia and Vascular Deafness; also Notes on the Deafnesses. By ROBERT T. COOPER, M.A., M.D., Univ. Dubl. London: Baillière, Tindall, and Cox. 1886.

THIS work is a reprint of a series of articles in journals. The first and by far the larger part of the book is devoted to what the author terms basic aural dyscrasia and vascular deafness. To give some idea of what he means by these expressions, we may quote the statement (p. 57) that "the basic aural dyscrasia represents a condition of ill-health in which a diffused irritability attacks the walls of the blood-vessels, which, left untreated, very often settles upon the ear, giving rise to two prominent ear-symptoms. One of these is an enfeebled hearing-power, or the deafnesses; and of these the majority are divisible into the obstructive and the non-obstructive class; and of these, again, the latter can be comprehended under the term vascular deafness." The author considers that in nearly 95 per cent. of aural patients, as they occur in the out-patient department of a hospital, functional murmurs in in the vessels can be heard, although he objects to the term functional. These murmurs he appears to consider indicative of a certain measure of inflammation, or irritation, affecting the coats of the blood-vessels. Hence he argues that the blood-vessels of the ear are progressively afflicted with morbid alterations of a precisely similar description. He also describes certain ear-symptoms as present in the early stage. "Vascular deafness" the author defines as "a variety of impaired hearing unattended by visible alteration of, or destruction in, the tissues of the ear, and not fairly ascribable to the blocking up of the external meatus or of the Eustachian tube, nor to hyperplasia of the anatomical elements of the middle ear, nor yet to paralysis of the auditory nerve."

These few references will give some idea of the author's theories in regard to the pathology of ear-diseases. Practically, it is to be regretted that he has not given more of his experience in the prevention of deafness, more especially as the work bears the subsidiary title of "A New System of Aural Therapeutics and Pathology." We learn, however, that the author is a strong advocate of the application of warmth in ear-diseases, which he considers always beneficial. Internally, he recommends the administration of picrate of iron, the indications for its use being hepatic inertia, coated tongue, etc.; and in nervous deafness, with symptoms of Menière's disease, he has used gelseminum with benefit.

Psychiatry: A Clinical Treatise on Diseases of the Fore-brain, Based upon a Study of its Structure, Functions, and Nutrition. By THEODORE MEYNERT, M.D. Translated by B. SACHS, M.D. Part I. The Anatomy, Physiology, and Chemistry of the Brain. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

THIS volume precedes that on diseases of the fore-brain, and is devoted to the topics above-named. The method adopted by Dr. Meynert for the study of these obscure diseases is certainly the correct one, and, were it carried out more frequently in other fields of medicine, our science would be more deserving of the name. The first part of the book is engaged with a study of the structure and architecture of the brain and tubes upon both the gross and minute anatomy. It is nicely illustrated. As to completeness of detail, we would ask for nothing better. The second section is taken up with the consideration of anatomical corollaries and physiology of cerebral architecture. To analyze this chapter would be a task far exceeding the limits of this review. In it are discussed many exceedingly difficult, we might add, impossible processes to understand. Cortical localization, relation of cortex

to the outer world; motor areas, seat of intelligence, memory, instinct, the methods of thought, inhibition, etc., all claim attention. The Doctor speaks of "psychical blindness" and "psychical deafness," and cites interesting experiments in support of his opinions. In speaking of intelligence, he quotes Munk as observing, "Intelligence is located everywhere in the cerebral cortex, and nowhere in particular." Further on, the author says, "I wish to add that it is the boldest hypothesis, shared alike by the ordinary mind and by scientific realism, to assume that the world is such as it appears to the brain to be; that the latter can be likened to a mirror which simply reflects the forms of the outer world; that the world as it appears to the brain exists independently of the presence or absence of mind." In speaking of memory, he says, that "no author of the present day would be likely to insist on one special seat of memory, for memory is the common property of all cortical cells and fibers, which are liable to receive and conduct external stimuli of all sorts." The inheritance of physiognomical expression he does not consider proved. At all events, he thinks Darwin could have made his views plausible only by showing that conscious movements originated in reflex actions. In the chapter following, the nutrition of the brain is considered. The circulation of the blood is minutely detailed, and the chemistry discussed. The Doctor enters upon the domain of weights of the divisions of the brain, and supplies new material as the results of his own labors in that direction. When speaking of the wealth of cerebral convolutions, he asserts that facts of comparative anatomy are not in accord with the view that the wealth bespeaks nutritive development, as the development of cerebral convolutions is governed by the laws of mechanics. But a little further on, he adds, "And yet we must not fail to mention that within one and the same species a certain relation does exist between the number of convolutions and the grade of intelligence." An appendice on the mechanism of expression concludes the book.—*Med. Bulletin.*

At a recent reform meeting in New York, it was stated as a matter of fact, that the State of New York had expended more than one million three hundred thousand dollars in the support of four generations of the descendants of one prostitute.

The Adirondacks as a Health Resort showing the benefit to be derived by a Sojourn in the Wilderness in Cases of Pulmonary Phthisis, Acute and Chronic Bronchitis, Asthma, "Hay Fever," and Various Nervous Affections. Edited and compiled by JOSEPH W. STICKLER, M.D., Visiting Physician and Pathologist to the Orange Memorial Hospital, member of the Orange Mountain Medical Society, and of the Essex County Medical Society, and of the New York Pathological Society. New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1886.

THE object of the author of this little volume, as we learn from the preface, has been to draw attention to the fact that climate plays a very important part in the treatment of certain morbid states of the system, especially catarrhal affections of the respiratory apparatus, and of various forms of nervous disease, as insomnia, nervous prostration, chorea and kindred affections, induced by one or other of the many causes which are operative in the crowded towns and cities. To this end he presents in this volume letters from various persons who have tried change of climate as a means of regaining health, as an honest expression of their experience while in the region of the Adirondacks. Among the writers are a number of physicians and prominent people, such as Dr. Loomis, of New York, Dr. Levick, of Philadelphia, Rev. Jos. T. Duryea, of Boston, Rev. H. J. Van Dyke, of New York, and many others. The testimony of these letters are uniformly in favor of the benefit derived from a visit of greater or less duration to the Adirondacks. Beside these letters, the book also contains chapters on the importance of Climatic treatment of Pulmonary Affections—The Adirondack region—Camping—Opinions—Improvement and Cures—Who should go—Who should remain at home, etc.—The Purity of the Air—Purity of the Water—The Cure of Positive Disease—The Development of Strength and consequent prevention of disease, particularly in the young—The most Favorable Conditions for Rest and Recuperation for the Weary, etc., etc. To those interested in the subject, and particularly in regard to the treatment of phthisis, a belief in the curability of which is rapidly gaining ground in the light of recent investigations and experience, this work will repay careful perusal.

Cocaine is a Methylbenzomethoxyethyltetrahydropyridinecarboxylate. Why is not called by its proper name?

How We Treat Wounds To-Day: A Treatise on the Subject of Antiseptic Surgery which can be Understood by Beginners. By ROBERT T. MORRIS, M.D., late House Surgeon to Bellevue Hospital, N. Y.; member Linnean Society of Natural History, N. Y.; member of N. Y. County Medical Society, New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1886.

To quote the opening words, "This book is modest only in size. It possesses dignity only in its facts. My idea is to present in digestible form a dish of truth from which all bones have been removed. I shall attempt to describe concretely the way in which a few wounds should be treated. Extensiveness will be sacrificed to simplicity." From this the style of the author may be judged and the manner in which he presents, stripped of all verbiage, the way in which wounds should be treated to secure the best results. The appliances necessary in antiseptic surgery, general directions and explanations, and the treatment of recent incised wounds, inflamed incised wounds, wounds in ovariotomy, wounds remaining exposed, wounds requiring frequent change of dressing, lacerated and contused wounds, inflamed lacerated and contused wounds, lacerated wounds, gunshot wounds, punctured wounds of knee, punctured wound of palm, inflamed punctured wound, poisoned wound, burned wounds of second, third and fourth degree, extensive burn of third or fourth degree, are all clearly and concisely treated. The general practitioner, who is liable to be called upon at any time to treat wounds, will find this little volume of decided interest as containing not only an earnest defense of "Listerism," but as also containing the latest modification of that system.

Practical Notes on the Treatment of Skin Diseases. Part II. Eczema. By GEORGE H. ROHE, M.D., Professor of Hygiene and Clinical Dermatology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore; "Author of a Text Book of Hygiene," etc. Baltimore: George H. Rohé, M.D., 139 N. Calvert Street. Price 25 cents.

THIS little volume, the second of a series upon the treatment of skin disease, deals with eczema, one of the most common and often one of the most intractable of diseases of the skin. The disease is simply and clearly defined, cause and varieties given, and the differential diagnosis from similar diseases as psoriasis, ringworm, etc., clearly presented. The notes concerning treatment are full, the author laying greater stress upon local treatment than upon internal medication.

A Text Book of Hygiene: A Comprehensive Treatise on the Principles and Practice of Preventative Medicine from an American Standpoint. By GEORGE H. ROHE, M.D., Professor of Hygiene, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore; member of the American Public Health Association; of the American Dermatological Association; of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland; Corresponding Member of the New Orleans Academy of Sciences, etc. Baltimore: Thomas and Evans. Price $3.00.

PREVENTATIVE medicine which has of late years assumed sufficient importance to justify its consideration as a separate department of medical service is as yet but indifferently well understood by many physicians. In fact it may be said that its importance is only beginning to be understood, and the literature of the subject is comparatively scanty. The volume under consideration, collating and arranging what is known upon the subject, presents in a compact and interesting form the essential facts upon which the art of preserving health is based. The many and varied influence potential in the causation of disease are considered, and their extent and character traced; from the composition and physical conditions of the atmosphere, the changes induced by the variation of pressure, temperature, moisture, and the presence of impurities in the air, through the influences of the soil, dwellings, schools, food, business habits, clothing, to the various germs of disease to the bacteria and micrococci that occupy so important a place in medical literature to-day. The history of epidemic diseases is concisely given, including the plague, sweating sickness, small-pox, Asiatic cholera, typhus, typhoid, scarlet, relapsing and yellow fevers, diphtheria, dengue, etc., and the various antiseptics and disinfectants compared. The physician who has not already a copy of the Text Book of Hygiene will find it a valuable addition to his working library as a valuable guide to the principles and practice of preventative medicine.

A new medical college has been organized at Seattle, Washington Territory.

Ueber den Shock. Einer Kritische Studie auf Physiologischer Grundlage. Von Dr. G. H. GROENINGEN, Stabsarzt am Königl. Med.-Chir. Friedrich-Wilhelms-Institut in Berlin. Mit einem Vorwort von Dr. A. BARDELEBEN, O. Profes. der Chirurgie, Geheimer Ober-Medicininalrath, General-arzt, 1 Class *à la Suite* des Sanitätscorps, etc., in Berlin. [On Shock.] Wiesbaden: Bergmann.

Dr. GROENINGEN has produced a most valuable treatise on a subject of great importance to surgeons. It is remarkable that continental writers have so readily adopted the English word shock. The author devotes several paragraphs to the naturalization of the term in French and German works, and prefers to retain the English orthography rather than to adopt Germanized or Gallicized variations, such as shoc, schoc, shok, schok, choc and schock, every one of which mongrel words has appeared in the pages of well-known authors.

The author adopts as the motto of his work two aphorisms. The first is Vulpian's declaration, that every function tends to destroy the instruments by which it is discharged; and the second is the equally well-known observation of Savory, "Action involves exhaustion, and repose is needful for repair; the greater the effort, therefore, the greater the exhaustion."

Ueber den Shock consists of a long series of clinical, physiological and pathological reports and observations. Of necessity, convincing arguments cannot be securely founded upon remarkable cases of death by shock, since even the least skeptical reader must ever be cautious about clinical reports, though indorsed by very high authority. The fatal cases of shock where organic lesions are most evident, are those which will be the most readily believed in; but the skeptic can always say that the lesions and not the shock killed the patients. When no lesions are described, the critic may fairly ask if they might not have been overlooked; nor can anybody who has some knowledge of practical pathology, as carried on in a hospital, forget that the best authorities do not always make necropsies with their own experienced hands. Hence many disbelieve in death from simple concussion of the brain. Many look doubtfully on cases of death from sheer fright, or from fear of chloroform or pain before the commencement of an operation, and, in some instances, before the administration of the anæsthetic. Death may certainly occur from a broken heart, from sheer vexation, and from other causes in the same category; but such are proximate, not immediate, causes; they provoke organic lesions. So it is with death from shock, in the majority of cases at least. The question whether exceptionally it may be otherwise is fiercely disputed. On that question all the arguments contained in a treatise on shock must necessarily turn.

He denies that shock is the result of a profound impression on the vagus, or the effect of paralysis of the heart; that it is caused by general vasomotor paralysis or spasm, or by a sudden change in the composition of the blood. He considers that clinical and pathological research proves that shock signifies sudden exhaustion of the medulla and cord caused by great functional violence. Irritation of any sensory nerve causes four different effects, according to its degree; when very slight, there is but consciousness of the irritation; a higher degree involves distinction by touch; more severe irritation causes pain; but the effect of the most extreme amount of irritation is a transitory or long-enduring loss of sensibility. This last degree is seen in shock. As irritation of a nerve causes exhaustion of itself and of its center, the greater amount of irritation the greater the exhaustion; hence, in shock, symptoms which can be explained by profound nerve-exhaustion are constantly present.

Dr. Groeningen does not believe in the so-called erethitic shock (the "irritability" of Hunter, the "prostration with excitement" of Travers), except as the premonitory sign of true shock, or of the commencement of reaction after shock, or the result of hemorrhage. Reaction, he declares, does not always follow shock, and may often be seen where shock has not occurred. The fever of reaction, and even reaction itself, he attributes, as a rule, to the injury independently of the shock. The most important symptoms of shock are weak and irregular action of the heart, diminished blood pressure, fall of temperature, lowering in different degrees of motor, sensory and reflex nerve-power, and weakening of the functions of the brain; all other familiar symptoms are, in the author's opinion, of little value. He does not strongly believe in pain as the immediate cause of shock. Great importance is attached to the relation of anæsthetics to shock. He is careful to note how it has been repeatedly proved that incomplete anæsthesia predisposes to

shock, whilst shock cannot occur during an operation when the patient is thoroughly under the influence of the anæsthetic.

Shock following operation is considered by Dr. Groeningen as the result of an exhaustion of the medulla, due to a long series of influences acting before, during, and after the operation, and all to be taken into account, as well as the mere fact of an incision or ligature. The same is the case with shock after an accident; the act of violence at the moment of the injury is seldom, if ever, the sole cause of shock. The presence of predisposing influences must be sought out, and only if several be manifestly present can shock be satisfactorily diagnosed. The author can find no positive *post mortem* appearances after death from shock.

Acting upon the principles of his aphorisms, the author speaks strongly against any operative measures or treatment which may increase exhaustion when such exhaustion may be avoided, such as amputation immediately after a crush or during intoxication, imperfect administration of anæsthetics, bandages applied so as to involve much disturbance at every dressing, placing the patient in a cold bed after operation, in short, every kind of mismanagement which the careful surgeon scrupulously avoids. Dr. Groeningen warns the surgeon against attempting artificial respiration in cases where shallow or imperceptible breathing exists, which may be solely due to loss of blood.

It will be seen that exhaustion of the medulla is the keynote of *Ueber den Shock*. Every individual subject which, as we have above noted, has been introduced into the work, has been previously considered by other writers; but it is at the same time carefully discussed by Dr. Groeningen, so that his work is a valuable record of collective experience and wisdom, written in intelligible language and in a scientific spirit. We hope that it may soon be translated—a task of no great difficulty, since the author writes the German of Goethe and Lessing rather than the clumsy dialect of the same language familiar to readers of many Teutonic works on scientific subjects.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

As a satire on medical nomenclature, the New York *Medical Record* states that "hyperembryohydrometrotrophy" is another name for pregnancy.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics, for Physicians and Students. By JOHN B. BIDDLE, M.D., late Professor of Materia Medica and General Therapeutics in the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. Tenth edition, revised and enlarged, with special reference to Therapeutics and the physiological action of Medicines. By CLEMENT BIDDLE, M.D., U.S.N., and HENRY MORRIS, M.D., Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Demonstrator of Obstetrics and Gynæcology in Jefferson Medical College, etc., etc. With numerous illustrations. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co. 1886.

THE appearance of the tenth edition of this favorite materia medica attests the popularity and usefulness of the work, the ninth edition having been exhausted in about two years. Although of comparatively small size, considering the subject upon which it treats, the concise, practical character of the work is thereby greatly enhanced. The important changes made in the ninth revision, that of the classification of medicines and the basing the action of remedies on a physiological instead of an empirical plan have been extended in this edition and the physiological action of each drug upon the human economy clearly and concisely set forth. In therapeutics—the practical application of remedies—the work is particularly strong, the indications for each particular drug being clearly and concisely set forth. As an example, we quote from medicinal uses of nux vomica concerning paralysis. "This medicine is our chief resource in torpid or paralytic conditions of the motor or sensitive nerves, or of the muscular fiber. Where, however, paralysis is the result of inflammation of the nervous centers, it is injurious and accelerates organic changes. It is most beneficial in those forms of paralysis which are independent of structural lesion, as lead palsy or paralysis from drunkenness. In paralysis arising from cerebral hæmorrhage—after the absorption of the effused blood when the paralysis remains, as it were, from habit—the cautious employment of nux vomica is often attended with advantages." The most important additions to this edition are paraldehyd, ethyl bromide, rapid anæsthesia, cocaine, preparations of manganese, lactic acid, nitro-glycerine and the nitrates, poultices, lycopodium, etc. In some cases entire articles have been rewritten, as in the cases of hydrastis, iodoform, owing to the recent investigations of their physiological action and a better understanding of their therapeutic value.

THE MEDICAL LIBRARY.

MARCH, 1886.

PRIZE QUESTIONS.

The main object of the MEDICAL LIBRARY is by means of comprehensive reviews, and critical comments, characteristic extracts, and notes upon new books and publications, to furnish a reliable guide to a thorough knowledge of the latest and most important of medical books and publications; and to aid in the dissemination of the best medical literature.

As an aid to this end we present in each issue a prize question, to encourage a "comparing of notes" on subjects of general interest to the profession, and more particularly upon *those relating* to medical literature, and to make such comparison interesting and instructive by the introduction of competition. The questions are open to all subscribers, and we desire all our readers to answer these questions, as the greater the number of competitors the larger the interest to both competitors and readers. There are four prizes, in all amounting to $10 on each question, divided as follows: $4, $3, $2, $1, for the four winning answers. These prizes will be given in books of the value named, the books to be selected by the winner.

In answering the Prize Questions the following rules must be observed:

1. Contributions and titles must be written legibly and in ink, on one side of the paper only. (Use postal card if possible, and *answer each prize question* on separate postal cards or slips.)

2. Full name and address of competitor must be given in every instance.

3. Every subscriber is requested to compete, and no restrictions are placed in the way of consultation or exchange of information.

4. It has also been found expedient to establish a rule to grant one prize only to the same person within a space of four months. No one, however, will be excluded from competition, and honorable mention will be made of all successful competitors.

5. Immediately on the publication of the decisions the winners are requested to send as quickly as possible the name of the book desired. The value of the books will be reckoned at the *retail* price of the *publishers*, or the amount of the prize will be credited on the purchase of any book desired.

6. All inquiries concerning the Prize Questions should be addressed to THE MEDICAL LIBRARY, 141 Broadway, New York.

PRIZE QUESTION 100.

The answers received to the Prize Question No. 100 in the January number foot up as follows, all books receiving over one vote being given:—Bartholow, Materia Medica, Appleton, 27; Flint, Practice of Medicine, Lea and Sons, 21; Thomas, Diseases of Women, Lea and Sons, 18; Lusk, Science and Art of Midwifery, Appleton, 18; Ashhursts, Principles and Practice of Surgery, Appleton, 18; Gross, Science and Art of Surgery, Lea, 18; Gray, Anatomy, Lea, 15; Bartholow, Practice of Medicine, Appleton, 15; Playfair, Obstetrics, Lea, 15; Da Costa, Medical Diagnosis, Lippincott, 12; Quain, Dictionary of Medicine, Appleton, 6; Dunglinson, Medical Dictionary, Lea, 4; Woods, Materia Medica, Lippincott, 4; Smith, Diseases of Children, Lea, 3; Bryant, Practice of Surgery, Lea, 2.

The highest possible number of votes, taking the first five books, is 105. This number was not attained by any competitor, the highest obtained being 99, which was reached by three competitors, Dr. O. E. Haven, Evanston, Ill.; Dr. Wm. McLaughlin, Harmony, Me., and Dr. B. F. Smelzer, Havana, N. Y., who will therefore divide the first three prizes ($4.00, $3.00, $2.00, in books) between them. The next highest number, 96, was obtained by Dr. W. J. Haine, West Farmington, Ohio, who takes fourth prize. As the other books sent in only obtained one vote, competitors may easily calculate their number by adding the numbers attached to the names of the books in the above list.

PRIZE QUESTION NO. 101.

Subject: Books of the Most Value to the General Practitioner, of late publication.

Select the five books which the writer considers of the most value from the books reviewed in the present and preceding number of the MEDICAL LIBRARY.

The object of this question is to ascertain the five books possessing the greatest interest for practitioners recently published.

The answers to consist of five titles selected from the list given below. The title of the book, with the author's name and the publisher, arranged in the order of their estimation by the competitor; thus:

Morris—How We Treat Wounds To-day. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Fothergill—Diseases of Sedentary and Advanced Life. Baillière.

Barnes—A System of Obstetric Medicine and Surgery. Smith, Elder & Co.

Lusk—Science and Art of Midwifery. D Appleton & Co.

Meigs—Milk Analysis and Infant Feeding. P. Blakiston, Son & Co.

LIST OF BOOKS REVIEWED.

Contributions to the Surgical Treatment of Tumors of the Abdomen. Part I. Hysterectomy for Fibrous Tumors of the Uterus. By THOMAS KEITH. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh.

A System of Obstetric Medicine and Surgery, Theoretical and Clinical. By ROBERT BARNES, M. D., and FANCOURT BARNES, M. D. Vol. II. Smith, Elder & Co.

A Manual of Microscopical Technology, for use in the investigations of Medicine and Pathological Anatomy. By DR. CARL FRIEDLÆNDER. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

How We Treat Wounds To-day. By ROBERT T. MORRIS, M. D. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1886.

Psychiatry. By THEODOR MEYNERT, M. D. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The Diseases of Sedentary and Advanced Life. By J. MILNER FOTHERGILL, M. D. Baillière, Tindall & Cox.

A Practical Treatise on Diseases of the Kidneys and Urinary Derangements. By C. H. RALFE, M. A., M. D. H. K. Lewis.

Science and Art of Midwifery. By WILLIAM THOMPSON LUSK, A. M., M. D. D. Appleton & Co.

Myths in Medicine, and Old-Time Doctors. By C. GARRATT, M. D. Putnam & Sons.

Milk Analysis and Infant Feeding. By ARTHUR V. MEIGS, M. D. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Co.

A Treatise on the Breast and its Surgical Diseases. By H. I. OSTROM, M. D. A. L. Chatterton & Co.

Epithelioma of the Mouth. By H. I. OSTROM, M. D. A. L. Chatterton & Co.

The Value of Vaccination. By GEORGE W. WINTERBURN, M. D, F. E. Boericke.

The Adirondacks as a Health Resort. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Practical Notes on the Treatment of Skin Diseases. II. Eczema. By GEORGE H. ROHÉ, M. D. George H. Rohé, M. D.

A Text-Book of Hygiene. By GEORGE H. ROHÉ, M. D. Thomas & Evans.

Basic Aural Dyscrasia and Vascular Deafness. By ROBERT T. COOPER, M. D. Baillière, Tindall & Cox.

Lectures on the Diagnosis of Diseases of the Brain. By W. R. GOWERS, M. D. J. & A. Churchill.

A Handbook of Therapeutics. By SIDNEY RINGER, M. D. H. K. Lewis.

The Surgical Diseases of Children. By EDMUND OWEN, M. B. Cassell & Co.

Ueber den Shock. Von DR. G. H. GROENINGEN. Bergmann.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics, for Physicians and Students. By JOHN B. BIDDLE, M. D. P. Blakiston, Son & Co.

The vote of each book is determined by the number of lists which contain it. Thus if a book is found in fifteen lists, it counts as fifteen. As a full account is given of all the books that receive more than one vote (that is, that appear on more than one list), each competitor can readily estimate the standing of his list by ascertaining the number of votes each of his books received and adding them up for the total vote. The answers to Prize Question 101 should be admitted not later than April 28th.

The responses received to Prize Question 100 are of interest as showing the value placed by the profession upon the different books. A large number of books were named, many of them having only one vote, that is, being named upon only one list, the others ranging from this up to 27, which latter figure was given Bartholow's Materia Medica. Flint's Practice of Medicine was next with 21, and then followed Thomas's Diseases of Women, Lusk's Science and Art of Midwifery, Ashhurst's Principles and Practice of Surgery, and Gross's Science and Art of Surgery, with 18 votes each; these six books being the most popular of any medical books in use in this country.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

AMERICAN AND ENGLISH.

Allen, J. W., M. B. Outlines of Infectious Medicine. $1.00.

Attfield, John. Chemistry: General, Medical and Pharmaceutical, including the Chemistry of the British Pharmacopœia. A Manual of the general Principles of the Science, and their applications in Medicine and Pharmacy. Eleventh Edition. Illustrated. 12 mo. Cloth, $5.25.

Baber, T. C., M. D. Guide to the Examinations of the Nose. $1.50.

Brown, R. Dyce, M. D. The Rein of Law in Medicine. 50c.

Barnes, Robert, M. D. Lectures on Obstetric Operations: including the Treatment of Hemorrhage, and forming a Guide to the Management of Difficult Labor. Fourth Edition. Illustrated. 8vo. $3.75.

Beasley, Henry. The Pocket Formulary and Synopsis of the British and Foreign Pharmacopœias, Comprising standard Approved and Most Recent Formulæ for the Preparations and Compounds Employed in Medical Practice. Eleventh Edition. 18mo. Cloth, $2.25.

Carter, A. H., M. D. Elements of Practical Medicine. Fourth Edition.

Dolan, Thomas M., M. D. A Summary of New Remedies. 88c.

Fagge, Charles Hilton, M. D. The Principles and Practice of Medicine, including a Section on Cutaneous Diseases, by P. H. Pye-Smith, Chap-

ters on Cardiac Diseases, by Samuel Wilkes, and Complete Indexes, by Robert Edmund Carrington. In two Volumes. Royal octavo. Cloth, $10.00; Leather, $12.00; ½ Morocco, Gilt Top, $14.00.

Fothergill, J. Milner, M. D. The Diseases of Sedentary and Advanced Life.

Friedlander, Carl, M. D. A Manual of Miscropical Technology, for use in the Investigations of Medicine and Surgery.

Garret, Alfred C., M. D. Myths in Medicine and Old-time Doctors.

Garrod, A. E., M. B. An Introduction to the Use of the Laryngoscope. $1.00.

Hardaway, W. A., M. D. Essentials of Vaccination. A Compilation of Facts relating to Vaccine Inoculation and its Influence in the Prevention of Smallpox. 12mo. Cloth.

Hudson, E. D., M. D. The Physical Diagnosis of Thoracic Diseases.

James, Prosser, M. D. A Guide to the New (English) Pharmacopœia. Second Edition.

Keetley, C. B., F. R. C. S. An Index of Surgery. Being a concise classification of the Main Facts and Theories of Surgery, for the use of Senior Students and Others. Third Edition. 12mo. $3.68.

Keith, Thomas, M. D. Contributions to the Surgical Treatment of Tumors of the Abdomen.

Loving, Edward G., M. D. Text Book of Ophthalmoscopy. Part I. The Normal Eye; Determination of Refraction; Diseases of the Media; Physiological Optics; and Theory of Ophthalmoscope. Illustrated. 8vo. Cloth, $5.00

Lusk, Wm. Thompson, A. M., M. D. Science and Art of Midwifery. Third Edition.

Morrow, P. A., M. D. Venereal Memoranda. A Manual for the Student and Practitioner. 24mo. Cloth, $1.00.

Morris, Robert T., M. D. How we Treat Wounds To-day. A Treatise on the Subject of Antiseptic Surgery which can be understood by Beginners. $1.00.

Meynert, Theodor, M. D. A Clinical Treatise on Diseases of the Fore-brain, based upon a study of its structure, function and nutrition.

Meldon, August, M. D. A Treatise on Gout and Rheumatic Gout.

McClaren, P. H., M. D. Atlas of Venereal Diseases. Fasciculi I. II. III.

Meigs, Arthur V,, M. D. Milk Analysis and Infant Feeding. $1.00.

Ostrom, H. I., M. D. A Treatise on the Breast and its Surgical Diseases. $3.00.

Ostrom, H. I., M. D. Epithelioma of the Mouth. $1.00.

Richter, Prof. Victor Von. A Text-Book of Inorganic Chemistry. Authorized translation, by Edgar F. Smith. Second American from the 4th German Edition. With Eighty-nine Illustrations on wood and colored lithographic plate of Spectra. 12mo. Cloth, $2.

Ringer, Sydney, M. D. A Handbook of Therapeutics. Eleventh Edition. 8vo. Cloth, $5.00; Sheep, $6.00.

Roberts, John B., M. D. The Field and Limitation of the Operative Surgery of the Human Brain. Illustrated. 8vo. Cloth, $1.25.

Ross, James, M. D. Handbook of the Diseases of the Nervous System. With 184 Illustrations. 8vo. Cloth, $4.50; Sheep, $5.50.

Ralfe, M. A., M. D. A Practical Treatise on Diseases of the Kidneys and Urinary Derangements.

Reynolds, J. J., L. R. C. P. Notes on Midwifery. Second Edition. $1.00.

Russell, Wm., M. D. Investigations into some Morbid Cardiac Conditions.

Sims, J. Marion, M. D. Clinical Notes on Uterine Surgery. With Special Reference to the Management of the Sterile Condition. 8vo. Paper. Memorial Edition. Reprint of Edition of 1873. Paper, $1.00.

Smith, J. Lewis, M. D. A Treatise on the Diseases of Infancy and Childhood. Sixth Edition. Thoroughly revised. With 40 Illustrations. 8vo. Cloth, $4.50; Sheep, $5.50.

Squire, Balmanno, M. D. A Manual of the Diseases of the Skin. Third Smaller edition. 18mo. Cloth, 35c.

Semple, Armand, M. D. The Pocket Pharmacopœia for 1885.

Thompson, Sir Henry, F. R. C. S. The Suprapubic Operation for Stone. $1.00.

Tirard, N., M. D. The Prescribers Pharmacopœia. $1.25.

Transactions of the American Surgical Association. Volume the Third. Edited by J. Ewing Mears, Recorder of the Association. 8vo. Cloth, $3.50.

Warlomont, D. E. A Manual of Animal Vaccination. Preceded by Considerations on Vaccination in General. Translated and Edited by Arthur J. Harries, M. D. 12mo. Cloth, $1.58.

Warner, Francis, M. D. Physical Expression. Its Modes and Principles. With 51 Illustrations. International Scientific Series. 12mo. Cloth, $1.75.

Williams, W. Roger. The Influence of Sex in Disease. 8vo. Cloth, $1.23.

Wood, John. Lectures on Hernia and its Radical Cure, delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons, of England, in June, 1885. With a Clinical Lecture on Trusses and their Application to Ruptures, delivered at King's College Hospital. Illustrated. 12mo. $1.58.

Wright, H. P., M. A. Leprosy and Segregation. With Photographs. 12mo. Cloth $1.75.

Ziemssen, Von. Handbook of General Therapeutics. In Seven Volumes. Volume IV. The Treatment of Disease by Climate, by Dr. Hermann Weber, and General Balneotherapeutics, by Professor Otto Leichtenstern. 8vo. Cloth, $4.90.

Eleven cities in England have recently elected medical men as mayors.

MEDICAL JOURNALS.

The first number of the issue of 1886 of *The Archives of Gynæcology, Obstetrics and Paedology*, presents an odd and attractive appearance with its cover of the new citron shade. The contents covering nearly one hundred subjects, selected from the leading Foreign and American Journals, presents a résumé of the latest thought and treatment in the branches of Medicine indicated by its title.

A German medical journal has appeared in New York. Its title is the *New Yorker Medicinische Presse*. As New York claims to be the third German city of the world in point of population, it should be able to support several medical journals in the German language.

KANSAS CITY MEDICAL INDEX.—A change has been made in the editorial staff of this progressive Western journal. Drs. Browning, Drake, and Adams have retired, and Dr. John W. Elston, the founder of the periodical, has associated with him editorially Dr. Emory S. Lamphear, who has already had considerable experience in medical journalism. We wish the *Index* success in its efforts to elevate and unify the profession and to establish medical societies and local sanitary boards in its neighborhood. We are glad to see that it advocates the International Medical Congress at Washington in 1887.

Wide Awake, D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, $3.00 per year. The March number of this unequaled comes to our table a veritable golden argosy—laden with a freight almost too good to be restricted to the young people. Among the profusely illustrated contents are: A Midshipman at Large, by Chas. R. Talbot, The Horse-House Deed, a story of colonial times, by Mary E. Wilkins, A Girl and a Jewel, Stoned by a Mountain, by Rose G. Kingsley, A Cycle of Children, Lady Geraldine, by E. S. Brooks, Pleasant Authors for Young Folks, Garden Pets, Strange Teas, Dinners and Fetes, Ways To Do Things, Search Questions in Literature, etc., etc.

The *Medical Analectic* has changed hands and will in future have for its editor Dr. R. W. Amidon, of New York. The selections contained in the *Analectic* during the past year have been admirably well chosen, and we wish to congratulate Dr. Wells, the retiring editor, upon the success with which he has carried on the journal. His successor promises to extend the field which the journal has covered heretofore.

Messrs. Foote & Swift, publishers of the *Physicians' Magazine*, are making an active effort to procure, through official sources, a collection of all the domestic and foreign laws on State control of medical education and practice. Such a collection would be of much value to both profession and public.

MEDICO-LEGAL JOURNAL.—Every citizen interested in Lunacy Reform, or Medical Jurisprudence, should subscribe for this *Journal*, only $3.00 per annum. Portraits of David Dudley Field, Luther R. Marsh, Judge William A. Beach, Dr. Conolly, Paul Zachias and Dr. R. Swayne Taylor, in September, December, March and June numbers. Portraits in each number. Physicians, Lawyers, or Judges, interested in Insanity, Lunacy Reform, Toxicology, or criminal cases, should subscribe. Sample copies sent 40c. each. Address, MEDICO-LEGAL JOURNAL, 128 Broadway, N. Y.

Medical journalistic enterprises recently launched that are to sink or swim: The *Ogle County Medical Quarterly*, edited by W. T. Speaker, M. D.; published by the Ogle County Medical Association. The *Medical and Surgical Herald*, edited and published monthly at Joplin, Missouri, by J. C. Petit, M. D. The *Physician's Magazine*, a quarterly published by Foote & Swift, Philadelphia. The *Cleveland Medical Gazette*, monthly, A. R. Baker, M. D., editor; S. W. Kelley, M. D., associate editor.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF THE MEDICAL SCIENCES (sub-title—*The International Journal of the Medical Sciences*).—This old quarterly, the sole survivor of the many publications of a similar character which were once considered indispensable to the literary man of medicine, appears in this issue (January, 1886,) under the editorial management of I. Minis Hays, M. D., and Malcolm Morris, F. R. C. S., London. The contribution of original articles in this number is alternately by a British and an American writer, and the department of editorial summary of the progress of medical science is about equally distributed between the two countries. The American Journal is a worthy leader in all the substantial work in the medical world, and we agree with a remark we heard uttered not long ago, that it argues badly for the literary and scientific taste of the doctor who does not find pleasure in studying closely the quarterly installments of medicine which it prepares for us. We commend especially to our readers the very able review by Dr. J. C. R[eeves] on General Anæsthesia and Anæsthetics. It is not immoderate praise to say that so far his statement of the case is unexcelled.

One of the most promising productions of the New Year in the shape of new ventures in medical journalism is the *Journal of Reconstructives, Dietetics and Alimentation*, published in New York City by John Carnick, with Dr. Wallace Wood as editor. Its columns contain interesting original articles upon general medical topics, and offer the attractive prospect of frequent contributions from the pen of Dr. J. Milner Fothergill, the expert upon matters of alimentation.

A German physician states that the liquor amnii of a German woman, whom he attended in her confinement, was redolent of the odors of tobacco juice. She worked in a cigar-making factory.

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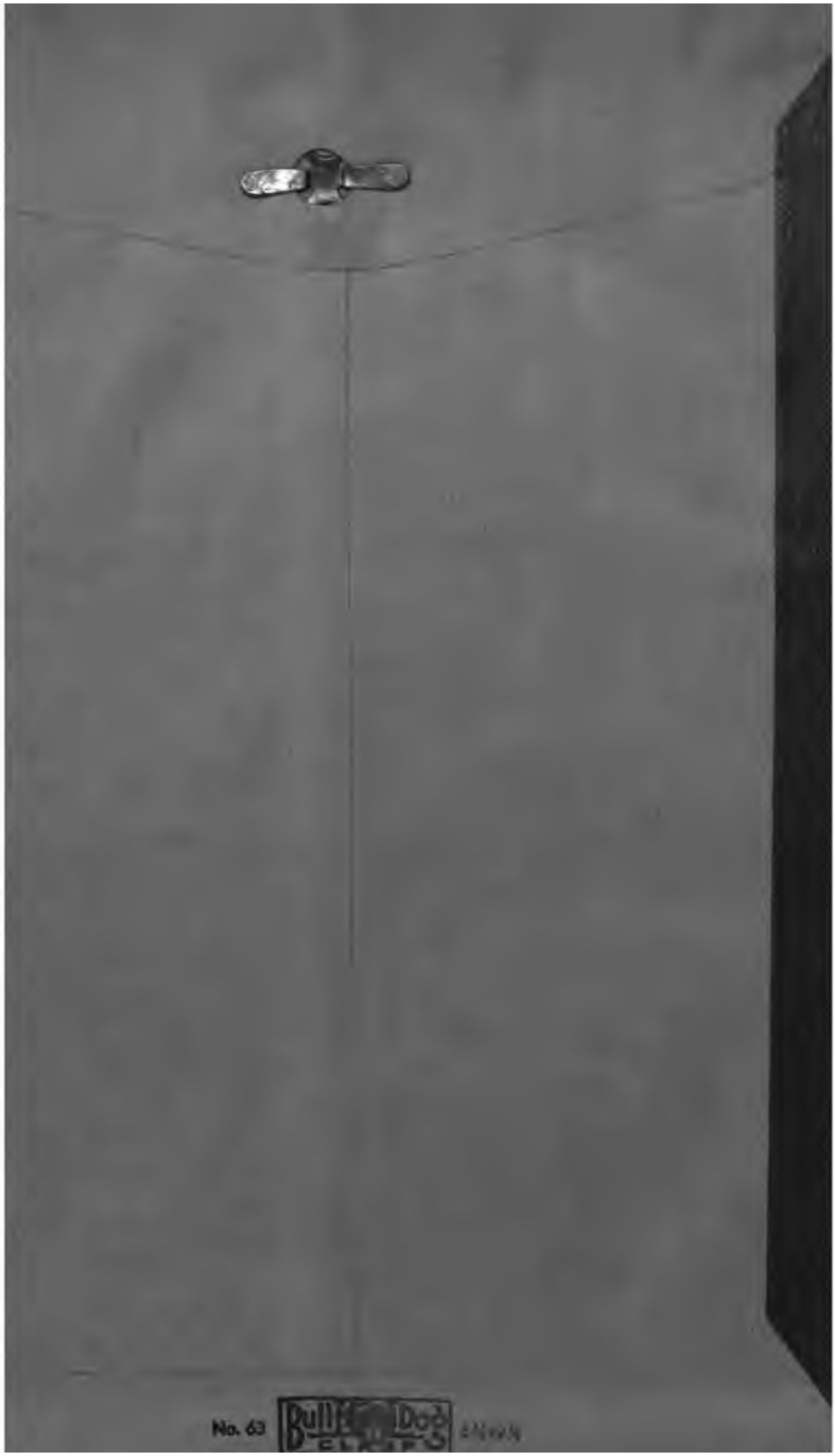
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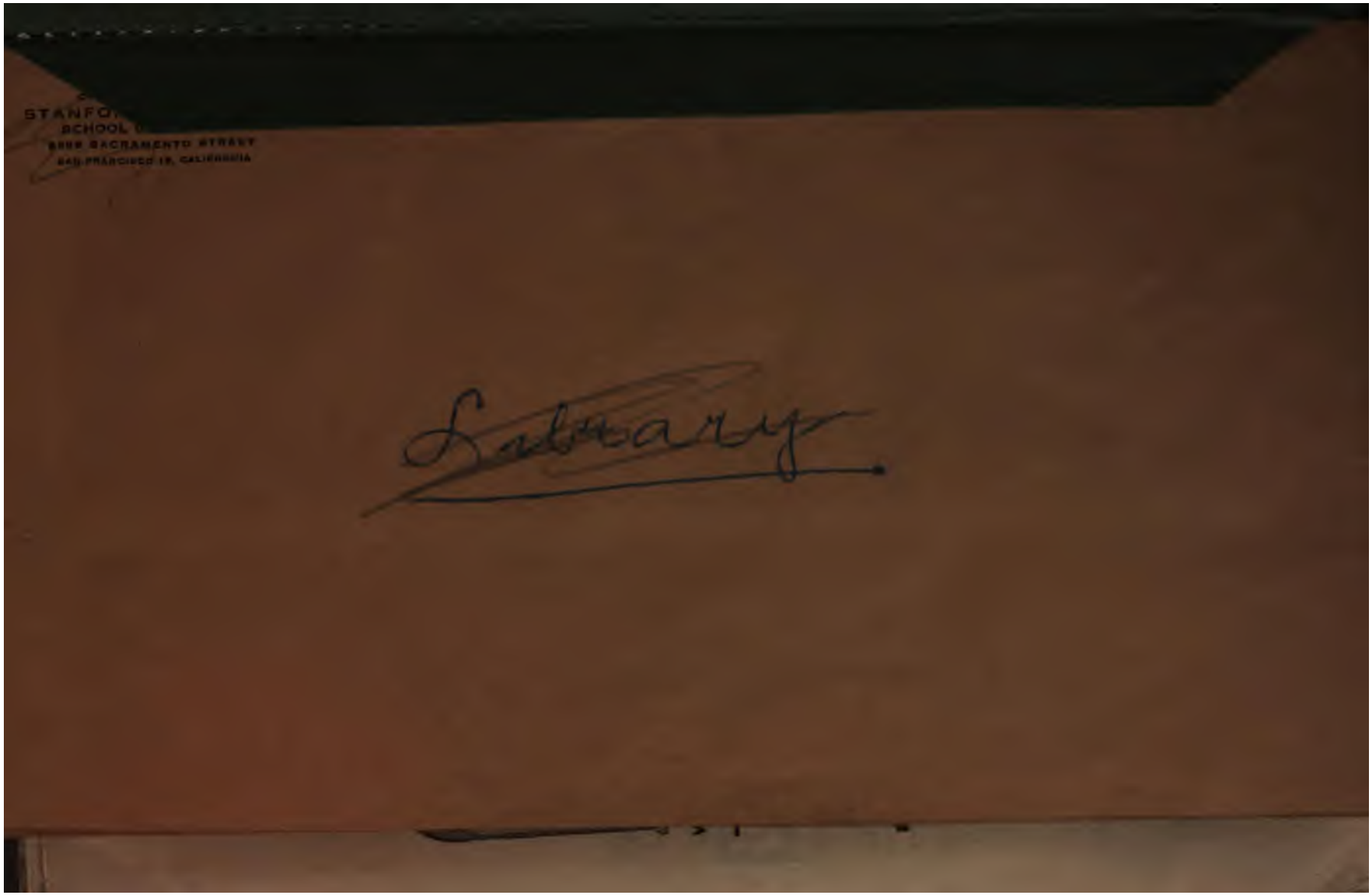
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